GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:665
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Study on Mental Disorder/Illness
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the study conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences that about 13.7 per cent of the Indian population is actually suffering from mental disorder in one form or other;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has noticed the findings in the said study that about 60 per cent of the mentally ill persons is not treated for their mental illness due to lack of resources for fear of being stigmatised, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a) & (b): National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore conducted National Mental Health Survey in 12 States of India viz. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Manipur and Assam. The study documented the mental health system in each of these States, namely, availability of mental health services, hospitals, professionals, medicines and other resources. The summary report of the Survey was released on 10th October, 2016. As per the report, the current prevalence of mental disorders including common mental disorders, severe mental disorders, and alcohol and substance use disorders (excluding tobacco use disorder) in adults over the age of 18 years is about 10.6%.

Based on the report, the States are expected to develop an action plan for the National Mental Health Programme.

(c): As per the report, about 60 to 85% of persons with mental disorders are not getting the required treatment for their mental illness. This is due to non availability of treatment facilities near their homes, non-availability of Psychiatrists and mental health professionals or medicines, lack of awareness of their illness and stigma of having a mental disorder.

(d): To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) and the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP). Funds have been released for 339 districts in the country under the DMHP for detection, management and treatment of mental disorders/ illness. With the objective to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the country, establishment of 18 Centres of Excellence in Mental Health and strengthening/ establishment of 39 Post Graduate training departments in mental health specialties have been funded to increase the PG training capacity in mental health as well as improving the tertiary care treatment facility. Besides, three Central Institutions viz. National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi have been strengthened for augmenting the human resources in the area of mental health and for capacity building in the country. During the 12th Five Year Plan, the DMHP has been restructured to include additional components like suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges. Support is also provided for Central/ State Mental Health Authorities, Research and Training and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.